

Appln No. 09/851,722

Am dt date October 28, 2005

Reply to Office action of October 5, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1, 11, and 17 are amended.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rakib (US 6,889,385 B1). In view of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, therefore, reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Amended independent claim 1 includes, among other limitations, "if the voice packet is destined for the telephone, the gateway depacketizes the voice packet, generates an analog voice signal, and transmits the analog voice signal to the telephone." Rakib does not teach nor does it suggest the above limitations.

Rather, in Rakib, the gateways at customer sites interface to a headend source, "recover digital data from the source or digitize incoming analog signals, . . . encapsulate the data into IP packets and then into LAN packets and route the packets to the peripheral that requested the program/service." (Col. 13, line 60 to col. 14, line 4, underlining added.). Furthermore, Rakib makes it clear that "telephony works the same way," in which, data bytes from T1 timeslots assigned to a particular conversation are packetized "into IP packets addressed to, for example, [digital] telephone 108. These IP packets . . . are then transmitted downstream to gateway 28 . . . At gateway 28, the IP packets addressed to telephone 108 are recovered and encapsulated into Ethernet or other LAN packets addressed to telephone 108. At the telephone, the Ethernet packets are received and the encapsulated IP packets are recovered. . . ." (Col. 14, line 56 to col. 15, line 5, underlining added.).

Therefore, the gateways of Rakib receive analog or digital data from a headend, convert the received data to IP packets for transmission over a LAN to digital peripheral devices, such as the digital telephone 108. In contrast, the claimed gateway of the present invention is capable of receiving VoIP, generating an analog signal from the received voice packet and transmitting the analog signal to a telephone.

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There is no teaching or suggestion in Rakib about a gateway that "depacketizes the voice packet, generates an analog voice signal, and transmits the analog voice signal to the telephone," as recited in amended claim 11. Consequently, the amended claim 11 is not anticipated by Rakib.

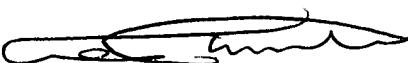
Amended claims 11 and 17 include similar limitations. Therefore, claims 11 and 17 are not anticipated by Rakib either.

In short, independent claims 1, 11 and 17 define a novel and unobvious invention over the cited references. Dependent claims 2-10, 12-16, and 18-20 are all dependent, directly or indirectly from independent claims 1, 11 and 17, respectively, and therefore include all the limitations of their base claims and additional limitations therein. Accordingly, these claims are also allowable for the same reason set forth hereinbefore as well as the additional limitations recited.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, and accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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